



Our programs are designed to be flexible and accommodate various group sizes and ages. Classroom programs are typically grades K-6 and lesson times can range from 20-45 minutes per class. Some popular past programs have included:

*Nocturnal Animals*

*The Water Cycle*

*Nature's Adaptations*

*Predator, Prey, and the Food Web*

*Geology of Indiana*

*Monarch Migration*

We are designing new programs with new topics constantly so if there is something in particular you are interested in, just ask!

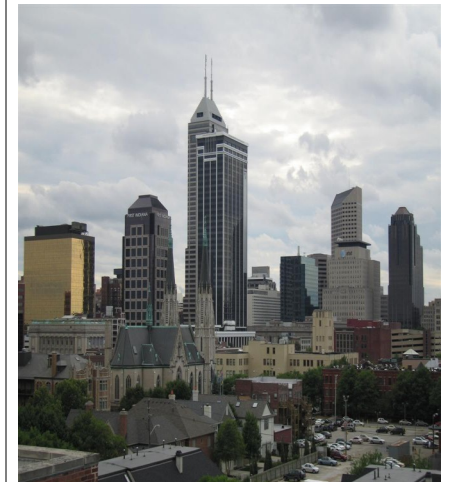


**Environmental Education  
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Eagle Creek Park  
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**Indy Parks  
Environmental  
Education  
Outreach**



**Bringing  
Environmental  
Education into  
Classrooms  
Across Central  
Indiana**

## What Is Environmental Education?

Many people think that environmental education is simply teaching kids about food chains and water cycles. They are right, but it is also so much more. Environmental Education uses our environment to not only teach about the natural world, but also to reinforce common themes that children are already learning in their classrooms. A naturalist can visit your school or group and use photos, books, furs, skulls, bones, and other natural props that help to demonstrate such concepts as camouflage, adaptation, cyclical patterns, biology, and almost any topic that might be of interest to your group. Since we focus on flora and fauna found here in Indiana we are able to develop and foster relationships between students and their environment using plants and animals that they might already be familiar with.



Indy Parks also operates 3 nature centers that schools or groups can visit. The centers at South-eastway Park, Holliday Park, and Eagle Creek Park can all accommodate large numbers of students for a variety of environmental education experiences.

## Can We Afford It?

The answer is YES! Through generous grants from various organizations, Indy Parks is able to offer our environmental education outreach programs at very reasonable prices. Our goal is to make environmental education available and affordable to all members of the community. We can work with you so that cost will not prohibit your groups or classrooms from receiving environmental education programming.



## What About The Standards?

Our approach to environmental education is a simple one. We use the natural world and all of its components to help reinforce educational objectives set by the State of Indiana. We reference the state standards when designing new programs and strive to enhance what teachers are already covering in the classroom. For this reason it is imperative that the teacher be present and attentive during programming so that the naturalist, students, and teacher all have the same information. Numerous studies have shown that when objectives are reinforced with a hands-on experience, the students have a greater level of retention.



## What's That Huge Trailer?

The Waters Education Trailer is a state-of-the-art mobile nature center that travels from site to site providing a unique environmental education experience for the people of Central Indiana. It displays various water related habitats as well as the animals that inhabit them. There are also hands-on displays that people of all ages can interact with. It can be a self-contained mobile classroom or opened up for people to walk through freely and explore. It is one of the most unique features of our department. Additional costs may apply. Please call for more details and scheduling info.



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